

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of all claims and their current status in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c).

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A portable electronic system, comprising:

electronic operating circuits which perform one or more functions;

a fuel cell operatively connected to provide power to said operating circuits; and

an ultrasonic atomizer which uses ultrasonic energy to atomize any liquid water produced by said fuel cell.

2. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, wherein:

said portable electronic system is a computer.

3. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, wherein:

said electronic operating circuits include a microprocessor.

4. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, further comprising:

a heat exchanger coupled to said electronic operating circuits.

5. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, further comprising:

a heat exchanger connected between said fuel cell and said atomizer.

6. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, further comprising:
a heat exchanger connected between said atomizer and an external exhaust.

7. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, further comprising:
a separator coupled to said fuel cell and to said atomizer.

8. (original) The portable electronic system of claim 1, wherein:
said ultrasonic atomizer includes a resonant piezoelectric transducer driven at an
ultrasonic frequency.

Claims 9-14 (canceled)

15. (original) A method for operating a fuel cell, comprising the steps of:
(a) supplying an oxidant and a fuel which contains hydrogen to a dry-electrolyte
membrane;
(b) allowing an electromechanical reaction to occur at said membrane in which hydrogen
is oxidized to form water; and
(c) atomizing any water condensate from the cell by applying ultrasonic energy thereto,
and expelling atomized water into the ambient air.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said step (a) comprises the sub-step of:
(a1.) supplying air as said oxidant.

17. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said step (a) comprises the sub-step of:
(a2) supplying gaseous hydrogen as said fuel.

18. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein:
said dry-electrolyte membrane comprises a sulfonated copolymer.